

# 6

## 6. Conservation and Open Space Element

The Conservation and Open Space Element covers two key aspects of County planning:

- Provides guidance and programs for the conservation, management, development, and use of natural and cultural resources; and
- Provides guidance and programs for the long-term preservation and conservation of open space lands. This includes the preservation of natural resources and scenic resources, and the provision of land for outdoor recreation.
- Provides guidance and programs related to energy resources and planning for climate change impacts.

The Conservation and Open Space Element is coordinated with the Land Use and Community Character Element to guide and balance conservation and development within the unincorporated area. Goals, policies, and implementation programs in this element are organized under the following headings:

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*Additional topics related to state requirements for the Conservation and Open Space Element can be found in other elements, as follows:*

- Water (Chapter 9, Water Element)
- Water, hydraulic force, flooding and fire (Chapter 7, Hazards and Safety Element)

## 6.1 Biological Resources

Ventura County lies within one of only five areas on earth characterized by the warm, dry summers and cool, wet winters known as Mediterranean climate. Mediterranean climates occur over only about two percent of the land area of the earth. Areas subject to such climate, however, support over 15 percent of the world's plant species, including many species occurring nowhere else on earth (Rundel and Tiszler 2007). Ventura County contains a diverse range of elevations, biogeographic features and ecosystems. The County's biological resources include plant and animal species, their habitats, plant communities and ecosystems that include habitat linkages and wildlife corridors. Numerous special-status species of plants and animals require special consideration and protection to federal, state and local law.

### COS-1

To identify, preserve, protect, and restore sensitive biological resources, including federal and state-designated endangered, threatened, rare, or candidate species and their supporting habitats; wetland and riparian habitats; coastal habitats; habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors; and habitats and species identified as "locally important" by the County.

#### COS-1.1

##### **Protection of Sensitive Biological Resources**

The County shall ensure that discretionary development that could potentially impact sensitive biological resources be evaluated by a qualified biologist to assess impacts and, if necessary, develop mitigation measures that fully account for the impacted resource. When feasible, mitigation measures should adhere to the following priority: avoid impacts, minimize impacts, and compensate for impacts. If the impacts cannot be reduced to a less than significant level, findings of overriding considerations must be made by the decision-making body. (MPSP, IGC, RDR)

#### COS-1.2

##### **Consideration of Sensitive Biological Resources**

The County shall identify sensitive biological resources as part of any land use designation change to the General Plan Land Use Diagram or zone designation change to the Zoning Ordinance that would intensify the uses in a given area. The County shall prioritize conservation of areas with sensitive biological resources. (MPSP)

#### COS-1.3

##### **Wildlife Corridor Crossing Structures**

Based on the review and recommendation of a qualified biologist, the design and maintenance of road and floodplain improvements, including culverts and bridges, shall incorporate all feasible measures to accommodate wildlife passage. (RDR, MPSP)

#### COS-1.4

##### **Consideration of Impacts to Wildlife Movement**

When considering proposed discretionary development, County decision-makers shall consider the development's potential project-specific and cumulative impacts on the movement of wildlife at a range of spatial scales including local scales (e.g., hundreds of feet) and regional scales (e.g., tens of miles). (RDR)

#### COS-1.5

##### **Development Within Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors**

Development within the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors overlay zone and Critical Wildlife Passage Areas overlay zone shall be subject to the applicable provisions and standards of these overlay zones as set forth in the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance. (RDR)

- COS-1.6 Discretionary Development on Hillides and Slopes**  
The County shall require discretionary development on hillsides and slopes, which have an average natural slope of 20 percent or greater in the area where the proposed development would occur, to be sited and designed in a manner that will minimize grading, alteration of natural land forms, and vegetation removal to avoid significant impacts to sensitive biological resources to the extent feasible. (RDR, MPSP)
- COS-1.7 Balancing Resource Preservation and Flood Protection**  
The County shall require that discretionary development and County-initiated projects balance the preservation of streams, wetlands, and riparian habitats with the need to adequately protect public safety and property from flooding hazards by incorporating natural or nature-based flood control infrastructure, (e.g., wetland restoration, soil conservation, vegetated levees), when feasible. (MPSP)
- COS-1.8 Bridge Crossing Design**  
The County shall require discretionary development that includes new or modified road crossings over streams, wetlands and riparian habitats to include bridging design features with bridge columns located outside the riparian habitat areas, when feasible. (RDR)
- COS-1.9 Agency Consultation Regarding Biological Resources**  
The County shall consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Audubon Society, California Native Plant Society, National Park Service for development in the Santa Monica Mountains or Oak Park Area, and other resource management agencies, as applicable during the review of discretionary development applications to ensure that impacts to biological resources, including rare, threatened, or endangered species, are avoided or minimized. (MPSP, IGC, RDR)
- COS-1.10 Evaluation of Potential Impacts of Discretionary Development on Wetlands**  
The County shall require discretionary development that is proposed to be located within 300 feet of a wetland to be evaluated by a County-approved biologist for potential impacts on the wetland and its associated habitats pursuant to the applicable provisions of the County's Initial Study Assessment Guidelines. (RDR)
- COS-1.11 Discretionary Development Sited Near Wetlands**  
The County shall require discretionary development to be sited 100 feet from wetland habitats, except as provided below. The 100-foot setback may be increased or decreased based upon an evaluation and recommendation by a qualified biologist and approval by the decision-making body based on factors that include, but may not be limited to, soil type, slope stability, drainage patterns, the potential for discharges that may impair water quality, presence or absence of endangered, threatened or rare plants or animals, direct and indirect effects to wildlife movement, and compatibility of the proposed development with use of the wetland habitat area by wildlife. Discretionary development that would have a significant impact on a wetland habitat shall be prohibited unless mitigation measures are approved that would reduce the impact to a less than significant level. Notwithstanding the foregoing, discretionary development that would have a significant impact on a wetland habitat on land within a designated Existing community may be approved in conjunction with the adoption of a statement of overriding considerations by the decision-making body. (RDR)

- COS-1.12**      **Discretionary Development and Landscaping**  
The County shall require landscaping associated with discretionary development, or subject to the California Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (WELo), to be water-efficient and include native, pollinator-friendly plants consistent with WELo guidelines, as applicable. The planting of invasive and watch list plants as inventoried by the California Invasive Plant Council shall be prohibited, unless planted as a commercial agricultural crop or grown as commercial nursery stock. (RDR)
- COS-1.13**      **Partnerships for Protection of Natural and Biological Resources**  
**CAP** The County shall continue to work in partnership with agencies, organizations, and entities responsible for the protection, management, and enhancement of the county's biological resources. (IGC)
- COS-1.14**      **Ecological Information Programs**  
The County shall support programs that encourage awareness and respect for the natural environment. (PI)
- COS-1.15**      **Countywide Tree Planting**  
**CAP** The County shall establish and support a countywide target for the County, cities in Ventura County, agencies, organizations, businesses, and citizens to plant two million trees throughout the county by 2040. (SO, JP, IGC)

## 6.2 Coastal Resources

There are 42 miles of coastline in Ventura County. Coastal resources are significant scenic resources, home to endangered and threatened species and habitats, and contain areas with cultural, paleontological, and archeological resources.

Beaches add significant value to quality of life for both their aesthetic beauty as well as free and safe access to leisure and recreational opportunities. Additionally, sections of State Route 1 and US Highway 101 along the coast are state eligible for official designation as “scenic” through the Caltrans California Scenic Highway Program. These scenic eligible highways offer outstanding views of the Pacific Ocean, as well as the foothills and mountainous areas on the inland side of coastal viewsheds.

Beaches also provide coastal habitats containing rich biodiversity. For example, the Mugu Lagoon has the richest biological diversity of all the coastal marsh areas in the county. It provides habitat for more than 30 “special-status species” and shelters the remnants of many plant, bird, fish, and insect populations that once inhabited preexisting lagoons. Ventura County is also home to several coastal wetlands including McGrath Lake, the Ormond Beach area, and the mouths of the Ventura and Santa Clara Rivers.

The coastal and interior zones of Ventura Country contain areas with marine and terrestrial fossils that are among the best in Southern California. Paleontological resources are present in many of the geologic formations in the county.

Through the Coastal Act, the State mandates that coastal communities manage the conservation and development of coastal resources through creation and adoption of a Local Coastal Program. Ventura County's Coastal Area Plan and the Coastal Zoning Ordinance together constitute the Local Coastal Program for unincorporated areas of the county. The primary goal of the Local Coastal Program is to ensure that the County's land use plans, policies, and actions meet the requirements of and implement the provisions and policies of the Coastal Act within the county.



*Policies related to coastal resources are contained in the Coastal Area Plan. The Coastal Area Plan covers the land within the Coastal Zone Boundary along the Pacific Coast. The Coastal Area Plan addresses shoreline access and public trails; development in scenic areas, coastal hazards, and coastal bluffs; environmentally sensitive habitat areas; cultural resources; transportation; and public services.*

*For policies concerning sea level rise, see Chapter 7, Hazards and Safety Element.*

### COS-2

To protect and conserve coastal beaches and sand dunes, proactively enhance coastal and marine resources, and respond to projected sea level rise.

#### COS-2.1

##### **Beach Erosion**

The County shall strive to minimize the risk from the damaging effects of coastal wave hazards and beach erosion and reduce the rate of beach erosion, when feasible. (MPSP, RDR, IGC)

#### COS-2.2

##### **Beach Nourishment**



The County shall support activities that trap or add sand through beach nourishment, dune restoration, and other adaptation strategies to enhance or create beaches in areas susceptible to sea-level rise and coastal flooding. (MPSP)

#### COS-2.3

##### **Coastal Regional Sediment Action Committee**

The County should work with the Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON), Ventura Port District, Channel Islands Harbor, cities, and the Navy to identify issues and establish common goals and objectives regarding sediment management, as well as to identify resources to meet defined goals. (IGC)

#### COS-2.4

##### **Mining Activities**

The County shall require discretionary development for all mining activities in County streams and rivers to incorporate all feasible measures to mitigate beach sand replenishment impacts. (RDR)

#### COS-2.5

##### **Shoreline Protective Structure Design**

The County shall require all shoreline protective structures which alter natural shoreline processes to be designed to eliminate or mitigate adverse impacts on local shoreline sand supplies. (MPSP, IGC)

#### COS-2.6

##### **Public Access**



The County shall continue to plan for the preservation, conservation, efficient use of, enjoyment of, and access to resources, as appropriate, within Ventura County for present and future generations. (IGC)

### COS-2.7

EJ HC

#### **Preserve Public Access**

The County shall work with federal, state, and local jurisdictions, agencies, and organizations to assess the vulnerability of public coastal access points and prioritize protection for those that provide the greatest benefits to residents and visitors. (PSR, IGC, JP)

### COS-2.8

#### **Coastal Fisheries**

The County shall encourage community programs that are designed to improve the quality of coastal fisheries and marine resources (PSR, IGC)

### COS-2.9

#### **Estuarine Protections**

The County shall support efforts by other agencies and organizations to maintain and enhance estuarine systems in order to protect and enhance coastal fisheries and other marine resources. (PSR, IGC)

### COS-2.10

CAP

#### **Saltwater Intrusion**

The County shall work with Federal, State, and local jurisdictions, agencies, and organizations to monitor saltwater intrusion and take proactive steps to reduce intrusion, including:

- working to maintain and restore coastal wetlands buffers;
- enhancing groundwater management to prevent excessive pumping in order to restore groundwater levels needed to reduce saltwater intrusion; and
- implementing mitigation measures to prevent saltwater intrusion into estuaries and groundwater basins including, but not limited to, implementation of reactive barriers and use of pumps to divert saltwater.

(PSR, IGC, JP)

### COS-2.11

#### **Dune Vegetation**

Discretionary development which would result in the removal of dune vegetation shall be conditioned to replace the vegetation. (RDR)

### 6.3 Scenic Resources

Scenic resources improve quality of life. From the coastline to the forested mountains of the north, the county contains aesthetic features that continue to attract visitors and provide pleasure to residents. The County is dedicated to conservation of these resources and ensuring visual access to them. Conservation of aesthetic resources is most critical where they will frequently be viewed, such as in proximity to a highway or a residential area. From panoramic views of the Santa Monica Mountains in the south to northern vistas of the Topatopa mountain range in the Los Padres National Forest and scenic views of coastal beaches and cliffs in the west, Ventura County offers a variety scenic resources.



*Policies related to parks and recreational facilities are in Chapter 5, Public Facilities, Services, and Infrastructure Element.*

#### COS-3

To preserve, protect, and enhance the unique scenic resources in Ventura County, and ensure access to scenic resources within Ventura County for present and future generations.

##### COS-3.1

#### Scenic Roadways

The County shall protect the visual character of scenic resources visible from state or County designated scenic roadways. (RDR)

##### COS-3.2

EJ

CAP

#### Tree Canopy

The County shall encourage the planting of trees and the protection of existing urban forests and native woodlands, savannahs, and tree canopy throughout the county, including along State or County designated scenic roadways and in residential and commercial zones throughout the county, especially those located within designated disadvantaged communities. (MPSP, RDR)

##### COS-3.3

CAP

#### Utility Undergrounding Priority

The County shall give overhead utility undergrounding within high fire hazard areas and Scenic Resource Areas first priority when allocating County Utility Undergrounding Funds. (MPSP, FB)

##### COS-3.4

#### Visual Impacts from Reservoirs

The County shall ensure that reservoirs are not sited on prominent ridgelines and that new reservoirs are well-screened with native vegetation and berms and, if possible, are undergrounded. (RDR)

##### COS-3.5

#### Ridgeline and Hilltop Preservation

The County shall ensure that ridgelines and major hilltops remain undeveloped and that discretionary development is sited and designed to remain below significant ridgelines, except as required for communication or similar facilities. (RDR)

### COS-3.6

#### Open Space Character

The County shall require discretionary development outside of Existing Communities be planned and designed to maintain the scenic open space character of the surrounding area, including view corridors from highways. Discretionary development should integrate design, construction, and maintenance techniques that minimize the visibility of structures from public viewing locations within scenic vistas. (RDR)

## 6.4 Cultural, Historical, Paleontological, and Archaeological Resources

Cultural resources are most frequently identified with prehistoric (archaeological) or historic resources. Cultural resources in Ventura County include prehistoric indigenous Native American sites, historic areas of occupation and activity, and features of the natural environment. Cultural resources also include non-renewable, nonmaterial resources such as cognitive systems (including meanings and values attached to items of material culture, biota, and the physical environment), religion and world views, traditional or customary behavior patterns, kinship and social organization, and folklore.

Historical resources refer to the material and nonmaterial expressions of human adaptations that characterized the post-contact (historic) period. These resources include historic event or activity sites, historic archaeological sites, standing architecture and other significant properties, and documents and other sources of historical information, and objects of material culture. Also, more nonmaterial cultural qualities, such as folklore, social organization, and value systems, can be associated with these properties.

Paleontological resources refer to the fossilized remains of plant and animal life. In Ventura County, paleontological remains include examples from most of geological history, including the Paleozoic (542 to 251 million years ago), the Mesozoic (251 to 65.5 million years ago), and the Cenozoic (65.5 million years ago to the present). Careful scientific study of fossilized life forms preserved in the sedimentary and metamorphic rocks of the Ventura County region can lead to identification of local paleo-environmental conditions and biological evolutionary trends. In addition, certain fossil remains are only found in isolated outcrops in Ventura County and are therefore of unique scientific interest.

Archaeological resources refer to the material remains (e.g., artifacts, structures) produced by human beings, whether intentionally or accidentally. The scientific study of these remains can lead to identification of activities, types of adaptation to the environment, and changes in activities and organization that groups of people in the past experienced. Furthermore, these remains often have special significance to Native Americans, ethnic groups, special interest groups (e.g., avocational archaeologists), as well as the general public.



### COS-4

To identify, inventory, preserve and protect cultural, historical, paleontological, and archaeological resources in Ventura County, including Native American resources, for their scientific, educational, and cultural value.

#### COS-4.1

EIR

##### **Tribal, Cultural, Historical, Paleontological, and Archaeological Resources Inventory**

The County shall maintain an inventory of tribal, cultural, historical, paleontological, and archaeological resources in Ventura County based on project studies and secondary resources, including record studies and reports filed with natural history programs, the California Historical Resources Information System and the Native American Heritage Commission. (MPSP)

#### COS-4.2

EIR

##### **(a) Cooperation for Cultural, Historical, Paleontological, and Archaeological Resource Preservation**

The County shall cooperate with cities, special districts, appropriate organizations and private landowners to identify known cultural, archaeological, historical, and paleontological resources to preserve identified resources within the county (IGC).

EIR

##### **(b) Cooperation for Tribal Cultural Resource Preservation**

For discretionary projects, the County shall request local tribes contact information from Native American Heritage Commission, to identify known tribal cultural resources. If requested by one or more of the identified local tribes, the County shall engage in consultation with each local tribe to preserve, and determine appropriate handling of, identified resources within the county. (IGC)

#### COS-4.3

##### **Historical Landmarks Preservation**

The County shall require all structures and sites that are designated, or eligible for designation, as County Historical Landmarks to be preserved as a condition of discretionary development, in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior Standards, unless a structure is unsafe or deteriorated beyond repair. The property owner shall place an appropriate marker on the site to describe the historical significance of the structure, site or event. (RDR)

#### COS-4.4

EIR

##### **Discretionary Development and Tribal, Cultural, Historical, Paleontological, and Archaeological Resource Preservation**

The County shall require that all discretionary development projects be assessed for potential tribal, cultural, historical, paleontological, and archaeological resources by a qualified professional and shall be designed to protect existing resources. Whenever possible, significant impacts shall be reduced to a less-than-significant level through the application of mitigation and/or extraction of maximum recoverable data. Priority shall be given to measures that avoid resources. (RDR)

#### COS-4.5

##### **Adaptive Reuse of Historic Structures**

The County shall require, in all feasible circumstances, discretionary development to adaptively reuse architecturally or historically significant buildings if the original use of the structure is no longer feasible and the new use is allowed by the underlying land use designation and zoning district. (RDR)

#### COS-4.6

##### **Architectural Design to Reflect Historic and Cultural Traditions**

The County shall require discretionary development to incorporate architectural designs and features that reflect the historical and cultural traditions characteristic to the area or community. (RDR)

**COS-4.7**

**EIR**

**Cultural Heritage Board Review**

Prior to environmental review of discretionary development projects, the County shall initiate a records search request with the South Central Coastal Information Center and coordinate with the Cultural Heritage Board to identify sites of potential archaeological, historical, tribal cultural and paleontological significance, to ensure that all known resources have been properly identified. Should a site of archaeological, tribal, architectural, or historical significance be identified, the County shall provide an opportunity for the Cultural Heritage Board to include recommendations specific to the discretionary project and identified resource(s). If it is determined during the review that a site has potential archaeological, tribal, architectural, or historical significance, information shall be provided to the County Cultural Heritage Board for evaluation. Recommendations identified by the Cultural Heritage Board shall be provided to the appropriate decision-making body. (RDR)

**COS-4.8**

**State Historic Building Code**

The Building and Safety Division shall utilize the State Historic Building Code for preserving historic sites in the County.

## 6.5 Soil and Mineral Resources

Approximately 65 percent of the soil associations in the county have the capacity to produce varying amounts and types of agricultural commodities. Typically, gentler slopes can produce the largest crop variety including strawberries, irrigated vegetables, row crops, and citrus. The steeper the elevation, the more rooted the crops must be, which tends to favor tree nuts, avocados, and citrus crops. The remaining 35 percent of soil associations in the county either cannot support agricultural production due to slope, soil composition, access to water, elevation, or the capacity for production is minimal.

Mineral Resources are defined as naturally occurring inorganic materials in the earth’s crust that are of economic value and can be extracted. Mineral resources in Ventura County consist primarily of aggregate resources, more commonly known as construction grade sand, gravel, and stone. Other mineral resources within the County include clay, shale, gypsum, silica sand, limestone, and phosphate. The location of Mineral Resource Zones and petroleum resources in the county are described and illustrated in Section 8.4, “Mineral Resources,” of the Background Report,

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**COS-5**

To preserve and protect soil resources in the county from erosion and for agricultural productivity.

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**COS-5.1**

**Soil Protection**

The County shall strive to protect soil resources from erosion, contamination, and other effects that substantially reduce their value or lead to the creation of hazards. (RDR, SO)

**COS-5.2**

**Erosion Control**

The County shall encourage the planting of vegetation on soils exposed by grading activities, not related to agricultural production, to decrease soil erosion. (RDR, PSR)

### COS-5.3

#### Soil Productivity

CAP

The County shall encourage landowners to participate in voluntary programs that reduce soil erosion and increase soil productivity. To this end, the County shall promote coordination between the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Ventura County Resource Conservation District, University of California Cooperative Extension, and other similar agencies and organizations. (RDR)



*Policies related to landslide potential and erosion are in Chapter 7, Hazards and Safety Element.*

### COS-6

To manage mineral resources in a manner that identifies economically significant mineral deposits and plans for and protects access to, extraction, and long-term conservation of mineral resources for existing and future generations.

#### COS-6.1

##### Balanced Mineral Resource Production and Conservation

The County shall balance the development and conservation of mineral resources with economic, health, safety, and social and environmental protection values. (MPSP, IGC, RDR)

#### COS-6.2

##### Significant Mineral Resource Deposits

In accordance with California Code of Regulations Section 3676, the County shall maintain classification and/or designation reports and maps of mineral resources deposits as identified by the California State Geologist as having regional or statewide significance and any additional deposits as may be identified by the County, and as provided by the State Mining and Geology Board. The County shall provide notice to landowners and the general public on the location of significant mineral resource deposits. (MPSP, PI)

#### COS-6.3

EJ

##### Mineral Extraction Location Priority

The County shall promote the extraction of mineral resources locally to minimize economic costs and environmental effects associated with transporting these resources. (IGC, JP)

#### COS-6.4

##### Mineral Resource Area Protection

Discretionary development within Mineral Resource Zones identified by the California State Geologist shall be subject to the Mineral Resource Protection (MRP) Overlay Zone and is prohibited if the use will significantly hamper or preclude access to or the extraction of mineral resources. (RDR)

#### COS-6.5

EJ

##### Mineral Resource Land Use Compatibility

The County shall ensure that discretionary development is compatible with mineral resources extraction and processing if the development is to be located in areas identified on the Mineral Resource Zone Maps prepared by the California State Geologist or in County identified mineral resource areas. The County shall:

1. Require an evaluation to ascertain the significance of the mineral resources deposit located in the area of a discretionary development and to determine if the use would significantly hamper or preclude access to or the extraction of mineral resources.
2. Require discretionary development proposed to be located adjacent to existing mining operations to provide a buffer between the development and mining operations to minimize land use incompatibility and avoid nuisance complaints.

3. Establish a buffer distance based on an evaluation of noise, community character, compatibility, scenic resources, drainage, operating conditions, biological resources, topography, lighting, traffic, operating hours, and air quality.

(RDR)

**COS-6.6**

**In-River Mining**

The County shall require discretionary development for in-river mining to incorporate all feasible measures to mitigate water, biological resource, flooding, and erosion impacts. (RDR)

## 6.6 Oil and Gas Resources

Oil and gas are major energy resources in Ventura County. There are currently (2018) 57 oil companies operating in Ventura County under the authority of 135 conditional use permits granted by the County to authorize oil and gas activities. Oil and gas are produced in Ventura County using both traditional and enhanced recovery techniques. While there is significant oil and gas production in Ventura County, no new offshore oil and gas development is anticipated in the county or nearby Federal waters because of regulation and opposition from the California State Lands Commission.

**COS-7**

To effectively and safely manage the exploration, production, and drilling of oil and gas resources in Ventura County.

**COS-7.1**

**Minimum Site Area**

The County shall only approve discretionary development for oil and gas development if the area of ground disturbance constitutes the minimum necessary to accomplish the project objectives. (RDR)

**COS-7.2**

**Oil Well Distance Criteria**

**CAP**

The County shall require new discretionary oil wells to be located a minimum of 1,500 feet from residential dwellings and 2,500 from any school. (RDR)

**COS-7.3**

**Compliance with Current Policies, Standards, and Conditions**

The County shall require new or modified discretionary development permits for oil and gas exploration, production, drilling, and related operations be subject to current State and County policies, standards, and conditions. (RDR)

**COS-7.4**

**Electrically-Powered Equipment for Oil and Gas Exploration and Production**

**CAP**

The County shall require discretionary development for oil and gas exploration and production to use electrically-powered equipment from 100 percent renewable sources and cogeneration, where feasible, to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from internal combustion engines and equipment. (RDR)

**COS-7.5**

**Restoration and Revegetation of Sites Used for Oil and Gas Exploration, Extraction, and Production**

The County shall require that discretionary development for oil and gas exploration activities be conditioned to require the restoration and revegetation of the site if the exploration does not result in oil and gas production facilities. (RDR) ]

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- COS-7.6 Abandoned Oil and Gas Well Identification**  
 The County shall evaluate discretionary development to identify any abandoned oil and gas wells on the project site. (RDR)
- COS-7.7 Limited Conveyance for Oil and Produced Water**  
**CAP** The County shall require new discretionary oil wells to use pipelines to convey oil and produced water, if feasible. Trucking of crude oil and produced water may only be allowed if the proponent demonstrates that conveying the oil and produced water via pipeline is infeasible. In addition, trucking of crude oil and produced water is allowed in cases of emergency and for testing purposes consistent with federal, state, and local regulations. (RDR)
- COS-7.8 Limited Gas Collection, Use, and Disposal**  
 The County shall require that gases emitted from all new discretionary oil and gas wells shall be collected and used or removed for sale or proper disposal, if feasible. Flaring or venting may only be allowed if the proponent demonstrates that conducting operations without flaring or venting is infeasible. In addition, flaring or venting in cases of emergency or for testing purposes consistent with federal, state, and local regulations. (RDR)

### 6.7 Energy Resource Conservation

Energy resources are important natural resources that support the expansion of the region’s economic base, its agricultural sector, and infrastructure capacity. As traditional sources of energy are depleted, there is a need to reduce energy consumption and develop alternate methods of power generation. California has made it a priority over the past decade to reduce energy demand through energy conservation and efficiency. As such, there has been an increasing investment in a range of energy efficiency and conservation programs. In line with statewide requirements and best practices, this section focuses on promoting energy conservation and supporting a diversity of energy resource development in the county.



*Additional policies related to climate change monitoring and adaptation are in Chapter 7, Hazards and Safety Element.*

#### COS-8

To minimize energy consumption and increase the use of renewable energy.

- COS-8.1 Reduce Reliance on Fossil Fuels**  
**CAP** The County shall promote the development and use of renewable energy resources (e.g., solar, thermal, wind, tidal, bioenergy, hydroelectricity) to reduce dependency on petroleum-based energy sources. (IGC, RDR)
- COS-8.2 Incentives for Energy Efficiency**  
**CAP** The County shall encourage the State, [community choice aggregation programs](#), and energy utility companies to provide programs, rebates, and incentives for energy efficiency installation and retrofit projects. (IGC)
- COS-8.3 Coordinate Climate Action Plan with Cities and Organizations**  
**CAP** The County shall facilitate the coordination of its Climate Action Plan implementation and maintenance with the cities in the county, the Air Pollution Control District, and other organizations to promote countywide collaboration on addressing climate change. (SO, IGC)

- COS-8.4**      **Clean Power Alliance**  
**CAP**      The County, as a signatory to a legal entity created under a Joint Powers Authority with neighboring communities, shall continue to serve as an active member of the Clean Power Alliance or similar organization providing local customer access to electricity generated from low carbon renewable energy sources in excess of State requirements. (SO, IGC)
- COS-8.5**      **Decarbonize Communitywide Electricity Supplies**  
**CAP**      The County shall work with utility providers to offer residents options to purchase and use renewable energy resources. (SO, IGC, JP)
- COS-8.6**      **Zero Net Energy and Zero Net Carbon Buildings**  
**CAP**      The County shall support the transition to zero net energy and zero net carbon buildings, including electrification of new buildings. (RDR)
- COS-8.7**      **Sustainable Building Practices**  
**EJ HC CAP**      The County shall promote sustainable building practices that incorporate a “whole systems” approach for design and construction that consumes less energy, water, and other non-renewable resources, such as by facilitating passive ventilation and effective use of daylight. (RDR)
- COS-8.8**      **Renewable Energy Features in Discretionary Development**  
**EJ CAP**      The County shall encourage the integration of features that support the generation, transmission, efficient use, and storage of renewable energy sources in discretionary development (RDR)
- COS-8.9**      **Urban Tree Canopy Improvements for Energy Conservation**  
**CAP**      The County shall encourage discretionary development to include the planting of shade trees on each property and within parking areas to reduce radiation heat production. (RDR)
- COS-8.10**      **Battery Energy Storage Systems**  
**CAP**      The County shall encourage battery energy storage systems as an option for optimizing the management of electricity generated by renewable resources. (RDR)
- COS-8.11**      **Energy Conservation in Area Plan Land Use Policies**  
Land use policies in area plans should be developed to promote energy conservation and should include the following:
1. The pattern of residential, commercial and industrial land use should be compact, relate to transit routes and centers and minimize vehicular travel.
  2. The infill of vacant lots should be encouraged over step-out developments
- (RDR)

### 6.8 Open Space

There are approximately 640,000 acres of open space in Ventura County that are managed by federal, state, county, special district, local, and non-profit agencies and organizations. A portion of these open spaces are accessible to the public and offer a variety of recreational opportunities in different settings.

The United States Forest Service (USFS) manages 87 percent, or 561,000 acres, of open space lands in Ventura County, which makes up almost all of north Ventura County. However, access to USFS lands is limited in part due to the wildlife conservation areas for the California condor and the existence of private lands near the southern forest boundary, which often do not have easements for public access. Non-USFS lands in Ventura County (other federal, state, and local lands) totaling approximately 79,000 acres, are mostly clustered near Ventura County's southeastern border.

Although Ventura County residents have a wide array of open space and recreational opportunities, distance to open space, and access, varies substantially throughout the county. Thus, some Ventura County residents do not have access to open space/park resources within walking distance, or a half mile of their residence.

#### COS-9

To develop and maintain a comprehensive system of parks, recreation, and natural open space lands that meet the active and passive recreation and open space needs of Ventura County residents and visitors.

#### COS-9.1

##### Open Space Preservation

HC CAP

The County shall preserve natural open space resources through:

- the concentration of development in Urban Areas and Existing Communities;
- use of cluster or compact development techniques in discretionary development adjacent to natural open space resources;
- maintaining large lot sizes in agricultural areas, rural and open space areas;
- discouraging conversion of lands currently used for agricultural production or grazing;
- limiting development in areas constrained by natural hazards; and
- encouraging agricultural and ranching interests to maintain natural habitat in open space areas where the terrain or soil is not conducive to agricultural production or grazing.

(RDR)

#### COS-9.2

##### Public Open Space

HC

The County shall explore possible resources for public acquisition of permanent open space for public use. (IGC, JP)

#### COS-9.3


##### Open Space Preservation

HC CAP

The County shall place a high priority on preserving open space lands for recreation, habitat protection, wildlife movement, flood hazard management, public safety, water resource protection, and overall community benefit. (PSP)

## 6.9 Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction

Climate change is a global problem caused by the cumulative warming effects of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Governments at all levels, non-governmental agencies, and private citizens and businesses are now acting to mitigate GHG emissions as quickly as possible to reduce or avoid the most catastrophic effects of climate change.

*This section contains policy components of the County's approach to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and is a key part of the County's overall Climate Action Plan (CAP). As noted in the General Plan introduction, the County developed an integrated approach to addressing climate change in the General Plan by incorporating policies and programs that address climate change throughout the General Plan elements. These policy components are designated with the  icon next to applicable CAP policies. As such, the General Plan will serve as the County's CAP.*



*Details on the purpose of the CAP, details regarding the General Plan's integrated climate action strategy, and a summary of results of key technical analyses used to develop the CAP strategy are contained in Appendix B. Section B.1 of this Appendix includes the components of the County's GHG emissions reduction strategy, while Section B.2 of this Appendix documents the County's vulnerability to climate change and climate adaptation strategy. Also refer to Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the 2040 General Plan, specifically Appendix D of the Draft EIR and Chapters 2 and 3 and Attachment 2 of the Final EIR, for detailed information regarding the County's GHG emissions inventory and forecasts.*

### Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Strategy

The current inventory of GHG emissions is organized by the following seven sectors, presented in decreasing order by level of contribution. Information on the detailed activity data, assumptions, and calculations used to develop the County's GHG inventory are included in Appendix D of the Draft EIR, and Chapters 2 and 3 and Attachment 2 of the Final EIR.

- Transportation
- Building Energy
- Solid Waste
- Stationary Sources
- Agriculture
- Water and Wastewater
- Off-Road Equipment

### Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Strategy

In accordance with the requirements of SB 379 (2015), codified in Government Code section 65302(g)(4), climate change adaptation and resilience must be addressed in the safety element of all general plans in California. Appendix B contains a section that summarizes the County's vulnerability assessment and a list of all CAP policies within the General Plan in Section B.3. Chapter 12, "Climate Change," of the General Plan Background Report, released in January of 2018, summarizes the County's vulnerabilities to the effects of climate change over the coming century. The key findings of Chapter 12 of the General Plan Background Report include:



## 6. Conservation and Open Space Element

- a rise of three to six degrees Fahrenheit (°F) by 2090 in the County;
- coastal erosion of up to 1.36 meters (4.46 feet) by 2100 due to sea-level rise;
- more frequent flooding events and more extensive and longer duration of flooding;
- elevated groundwater levels and salinity intrusion due to sea-level rise;
- the exposure of approximately 23,300 people countywide to inundation from a 100-year flood event combined with a 1.4-meter (4.6-foot) rise in sea level, many of whom are low income or especially vulnerable;
- the exposure of approximately 170 miles of roads and railways, hospitals, schools, emergency facilities, wastewater treatment plants, three power plants, and a naval base from a 100-year flood event combined with a 1.4-meter (4.6-foot) rise in sea level;
- habitat fragmentation due to changes in precipitation, increased temperatures, and rising sea levels;
- an increase of up to 79 extreme heat days per year by 2099; and
- a 15 percent increase countywide in the potential amount of area burned by wildfire between 2020 and 2085 as compared to historical trends.

This background information is further summarized in Appendix B. Specific policies and implementation programs contained in the General Plan elements that address climate vulnerability and adaptation are identified in Sections B.1 and B.3.

### COS-10

To improve the long-term sustainability of the community through local efforts to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

#### COS-10.1 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Strategy

**CAP**

The County shall maintain and refer to the General Plan and its integrated greenhouse gas (GHG) Reduction Strategy as the County's comprehensive plan for reducing community-wide GHG emissions in the unincorporated County. (RDR) ]

#### COS-10.2 Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Target for 2030

**CAP**

The County shall work toward achieving a community-wide GHG emissions reduction target of 41 percent below 2015 levels by 2030. (RDR)

#### COS-10.3 Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Goals for 2040 and 2050

**CAP**

The County shall work toward achieving longer-term, post-2030 community-wide GHG emissions reduction goals, as follows:

- 61 percent below 2015 levels by 2040, and
- 80 percent below 2015 levels by 2050.

(RDR)

**COS-10.4 Greenhouse Gas Reductions in Existing and New Development**

**CAP**

The County shall reduce GHG emissions in both existing and new development through a combination of measures included in the GHG Strategy, which includes new and modified regulations, financing and incentive-based programs, community outreach and education programs, partnerships with local or regional agencies, and other related actions. (RDR)

**6.10 Implementation Programs**



Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
			Supporting Department(s)					
<b>A</b>	<b>Standards for Compact Development</b> The County shall update the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance to include design and development standards to achieve compact siting of development adjacent to scenic or sensitive biological resources.	COS-1.1 COS-1.2	RMA	■				
			n/a					
<b>B</b>	<b>Update Initial Study Assessment Guidelines</b> The County shall update the Initial Study Assessment Guidelines to identify a range of mitigation measures for protected biological resources. This will include updating Section 4, Biological Resources, to include the following California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) policy language regarding compensatory mitigation: “When there is no other feasible alternative to avoiding an impact to a wetland habitat, the County shall require the discretionary development to provide restoration and/or replacement habitat as compensatory mitigation such that no overall net loss of wetland habitat results from the development. The restoration and/or replacement habitat shall be "in kind" (i.e. same type and acreage) and provide wetland habitat of comparable biological value. On-site restoration and/or replacement shall be preferred wherever possible. A habitat restoration and/or replacement plan to describe and implement such compensatory mitigation	COS-1.1 COS-1.2 COS-1.6 COS-1.10 COS-1.11	RMA	■				
			n/a					

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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
	shall be developed in consultation with all agencies that have jurisdiction over the resource.”						
<b>C</b>	<b>Update Tree Protection Ordinance</b> The County shall update existing Tree Protection Regulations in the Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance to further enhance conservation of our urban forests and the preservation of the County’s oak woodland resources. Updates shall include incorporation of Board-adopted recommendations from the Ventura County Oak Woodlands Management Plan (2007), which includes tree replacement offsets for ministerial development projects that remove protected trees. The County shall also re-evaluate and modify, if necessary, mitigation ratios for tree removal and oak woodland impacts for discretionary development projects, evaluate existing protections for invasive, non-native trees and consider the degree to which they provide habitat for a species during critical life stages (e.g., colonial roost sites, breeding sites, etc.). In addition, the evaluation shall also include anticipated effects of climate change on the urban forest environment CAP	COS-1.1 COS-3.2	RMA				
		GSA (Parks)		■			

Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
			Supporting Department(s)					
<b>D</b>	<b>Research Feasibility of Updating Vegetation Maps</b> In partnership with other natural resource agencies and organizations, the County shall explore the feasibility of updating vegetation maps for unincorporated areas to facilitate the accurate analysis of potential impacts of development on vegetation communities and other sensitive biological resources. If necessary, the County shall develop or modify regulations and development standards to ensure adequate protections for vegetation communities.	COS-1.1 COS-1.10 COS-1.11	RMA	■				
			PWA Watershed Protection					
<b>E</b>	<b>Update Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance Standards for Vegetation Communities</b> Based on the results of Implementation Program COS-D, (updated vegetation mapping), the County shall develop or modify regulations and development standards to ensure adequate protections for vegetation communities and other sensitive biological resources, if necessary.	COS-1.1 COS-1.6 COS-1.10 COS-1.11	RMA		■			
			n/a					
<b>F</b>	<b>Evaluate Increase to Standard Setback from Wetland</b> The County shall evaluate whether a standards 200-foot setback from wetlands should apply to development in order to improve water quality, reduce the impacts of flooding and provide adequate protection for sensitive biological resources.	COS-1.1 COS-1.2 COS-1.10 COS-1.11	RMA		■			
			n/a					
<b>G</b>	<b>Identification of Critical Habitats</b> The County shall continue to partner with state and federal agencies to identify those areas of the County that are considered to be critical habitats of endangered, threatened or rare species as well as for other significant biological resources.	COS-1.9 COS-1.10 COS-1.11	RMA					■
			n/a					


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Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
			Supporting Department(s)					
<b>H</b>	<b>County Tree Planting Program</b> The County shall plant at least one thousand trees annually. ] 	COS-1.15	CEO GSA RMA				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
			Other County Agencies, as appropriate					
<b>I</b>	<b>Grants for Climate Change Adaptation Activities</b> The County shall apply for grants through the California Coastal Commission and other organizations for beach nourishment, dune restoration, and other adaptation activities to improve the resilience of county beaches to sea-level rise and coastal flooding. 	COS-2.1 COS-2.2	PWA					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			n/a					
<b>J</b>	<b>Scenic Highway Designations</b> The County shall seek official State Scenic Highway designations for County designated Scenic Highways.	COS-3.1	RMA		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
<b>K</b>	<b>Preservation Guidelines for Significant Cultural, Historical, Paleontological, and Archaeological Resources</b> The County shall prepare, and regularly update as needed, specific guidelines for the preservation of significant cultural, historical, paleontological, and archaeological resources.	COS-4.1 COS-4.2 COS-4.3 COS-4.4	RMA					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			n/a					
<b>L</b>	<b>Oil and Gas Well Stimulation Treatment</b> The County shall require discretionary projects that include fracking, well stimulation treatment, cyclic steaming, and/or steam flooding be evaluated for potential effects on ground water contamination, exacerbation of seismic activity, water use, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and other impacts.	COS-7.4	RMA					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
			n/a					

Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
			Supporting Department(s)					
<b>M</b>	<b>Oil and Gas Tax</b> The County shall evaluate the feasibility of establishing a local tax on all oil and gas operations located in the unincorporated county. CAP	COS-8.1	CEO	■				
			n/a					
<b>N</b>	<b>Sustainable Building, Siting, and Landscaping Practice Guidelines</b> The County shall prepare sustainable building, siting, and landscaping practice guidelines that promote a whole systems approach to building designs and construction techniques that reduce consumption of non-renewable resources such as oil, gas and water and promote renewable energy use. EJ HC CAP	COS-8.7 COS-8.8	RMA	■				
			GSA					
<b>O</b>	<b>Assessment of Land Near Electrical Transmission and Distribution Lines</b> The County shall conduct a study and prepare a publicly available assessment of suitable undeveloped lands near electrical transmission and distribution lines that serve as priority areas for the development of utility-scale solar energy generation and storage projects. If suitable locations are identified, the County shall establish a new zone, if necessary, called a Renewable Energy Priority Zone, for these sites in the County’s Coastal and Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinances. CAP	COS-8.1 COS-8.5	RMA	■				
			REA					







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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<b>P Study to Demonstrate Energy and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Savings</b> The County shall conduct a study that demonstrates the energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) savings of the options identified in Implementation Program COS-R using modeled building prototypes. To satisfy state regulatory requirements for Energy Reach Code adoption, the study shall also demonstrate long-term cost savings of the options through a life-cycle cost analysis that considers the initial costs of efficiency improvements offset by utility bill cost savings and other relevant factors. CAP	COS-8.1 COS-8.6	CEO	■				
		RMA REA					
<b>Q Incentives for Development of Renewable Energy Projects</b> To incentivize the development of the Renewable Energy projects, the County shall consider waiving permit fees for renewable energy generation or storage projects. CAP	COS-8.5	CEO	■				
		RMA REA					
<b>R Performance-Based Building Code for Green Building</b> The County shall maintain and update as needed the Building Code to establish performance-based standards that incentivize green building techniques. EJ HC CAP	COS-8.6 COS-8.7 COS-8.8	RMA	■				
		REA					
<b>S Building Code Update</b> The County shall update the Building Code to include a mandatory Energy Reach Code. CAP	COS-8.6 COS-8.7	RMA	■				
		REA					

<p><b>T</b></p>	<p><b>Energy Consumption Performance</b>                  The County shall continue to review its energy consumption performance and implement programs designed to increase energy efficiency in County-owned buildings, including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ reduced operating hours for heating, ventilating and lighting systems,</li> <li>■ installation of weather stripping on all openable doors and windows,</li> <li>■ development of energy audit and energy management programs,</li> <li>■ implementation of operation and maintenance programs which contribute to energy conservation,</li> <li>■ develop energy audits and energy management programs for all County-owned facilities,</li> <li>■ develop a plan to re-invest utility company rebates and utility savings into a long-range funding program for on-going conservation projects,</li> <li>■ implement operational and maintenance programs which contribute to energy conservation,</li> <li>■ investigate and implement new energy technologies such as solar and fuel cells,</li> <li>■ install energy management systems in all County-owned facilities to control air conditioning and lighting systems where beneficial,</li> <li>■ install ceiling, wall, and roof insulation whenever feasible,</li> <li>■ install plumbing flow restrictors in toilets, lavatories and showers, and</li> <li>■ provide energy conservation training and literature to all County agencies.</li> </ul> <p></p>	<p>COS-8.7</p>	<p>GSA</p> <hr/> <p>REA</p>					<p>■</p>
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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<b>U Solar Canopies in Non-Residential Projects</b> The County shall amend the County's Coastal and Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinances to require parking lots for new non-residential construction projects, with floor area of greater than 50,000 square feet, to include solar canopies.  	COS-8.8 COS-8-9	RMA	■				
		PWA					
<b>V Improve Energy Conservation Awareness</b> The County shall encourage community members to conserve energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase awareness about energy efficiency and climate change and adaptation, to conduct targeted outreach to homeowners and contractors to encourage installation of electric appliances upon routine replacement of natural gas appliances and heaters and provide information regarding financial incentives.  	COS-8.1 COS-8.6 COS-8.7	CEO					■
		REA					
<b>W Energy Efficiency and Conservation Program</b> The County shall develop a behavior change program for energy efficiency and conservation. This program would provide energy literacy training for low-income customers on buying energy-efficient products or using energy more efficiently; develop and offer digital applications offering real-time energy use information to residents and businesses; offer anonymized data on community energy use for residents to compare performance; and provide rewards or rebates for improved energy conservation.  	COS-Goal 8	CEO	■				
		REA					

Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
			Supporting Department(s)					
X	<b>Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Strategy Implementation</b> The County shall implement the General Plan GHG Strategy through specific policies, programs, and implementing actions integrated throughout the General Plan and summarized in Appendix B. CAP	See all policies and programs tagged with a CAP symbol in General Plan	RMA					■
			Varies (see descriptions for individual components or GHG reduction measures)					
Y	<b>Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Strategy Monitoring</b> The County shall implement, under the overall direction of the CEO and with support of RMA, PWA, GSA, AGC, FD, and other departments as appropriate, the GHG Strategy through specific policies, programs, and implementing actions integrated throughout the General Plan and summarized in Appendix B, Climate Action Plan, as well as other appropriate actions adopted from time to time. The greenhouse gas reduction strategy shall consist of a comprehensive program to systematically reduce greenhouse gas emissions to meet adopted emission reduction targets and deadlines from all sectors – transportation, buildings, solid waste, stationary sources, agriculture, water and wastewater, and off-road equipment. CAP	COS-10.1 COS-10.2 COS-10.3 COS-10.4	RMA					■
			PWA GSA AGC FD					

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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<b>Z Public Reporting on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Strategy Progress</b> The County shall prepare public reports on the results of GHG Strategy implementation and monitoring and present these reports to the Board of Supervisors. The first report shall be submitted to the Board of Supervisors two years after the approval of the General Plan, after which the Board of Supervisors will determine the appropriate future reporting interval. The County shall also present a more detailed progress report to the Board of Supervisors, including results of the latest GHG inventory update, every five years. CAP	COS-10.1 COS-10.2 COS-10.3 COS-10.4	RMA				■	
		CEO					
<b>AA Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory Updates</b> The County shall update the County’s GHG emissions inventory at least every five years. CAP	COS-10.1 COS-10.2 COS-10.3 COS-10.4	RMA	■	■	■		■
		CEO					
<b>BB Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Strategy Amendments</b> The County may amend the GHG Strategy to ensure that the County is on track to achieve its 2030 target and making substantial progress towards achieving its longer-term, post-2030 goals. CAP	COS-10.1 COS-10.2 COS-10.3 COS-10.4	RMA					■
		CEO					

<p><b>CC</b></p>	<p><b>Climate Emergency Council</b></p> <p>The County shall establish a Climate Emergency Council (CEC) by a resolution of the Board of Supervisors to advise the Board of Supervisors on climate action planning and implementation of the Climate Action Plan (CAP) goals, policies, and programs. The County agency or department responsible for implementation of this program shall draft, administer, and maintain the CEC bylaws. Initial establishment of the CEC and its bylaws shall include the following terms, duties, and membership composition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Term of each member is two years. At the conclusion of a term, a CEC member may be re-appointed or re-selected, as applicable, for a consecutive term by the appointing authority.</li> <li>■ Duties of the CEC members include attendance at duly called meetings; review, in advance, of all written material provided in preparation for CEC meetings; serve and participate on committees and/or sub-committees; and contribute to the CEC's advisory recommendations to the Board of Supervisors;</li> <li>■ The officers of the CEC shall be Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.</li> <li>■ Officers shall be elected annually at regular meeting each year by CEC members. Nomination shall be made from the floor. Election shall be by simple majority.</li> <li>■ Officers shall serve a one-year term. An officer may be re-elected, but no individual shall serve more than three full consecutive terms in the same office. No member shall hold more than one office at a time.</li> <li>■ The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the CEC, sign all correspondence, reports, and other materials produced by the CEC,</li> </ul>	<p>See all policies and programs tagged with a CAP symbol in General Plan</p>	<p>CEO</p> <hr/> <p>RMA</p>	<p>■</p>				
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	<p>and perform any and all other duties prescribed by the CEC from time to time. The Chairperson may serve as an ex-officio member of all committees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The Vice-Chairperson shall represent the Chairperson and/or substitute in performance of the Chairperson during their absence.</li> <li>■ Membership of the CEC shall be comprised of the following:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ One person representing each Supervisorial District who has demonstrated interest in and knowledge of climate action planning shall be nominated by each of the five members of the Board of Supervisors, and confirmed by a majority of the Board of Supervisors resulting in a total of five Supervisorial District representatives;</li> <li>▪ One resident from each of the designated disadvantaged communities identified in the 2040 General Plan who has demonstrated an understanding of their community's needs as well as an interest in and knowledge of climate action planning shall be appointed by a majority of the Board of Supervisors; and</li> <li>▪ Two additional at-large members who have demonstrated special interest, competence, experience, or knowledge in climate action planning shall be selected by a majority of the CEC members.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>							
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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each member is entitled to one vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the CEC.</li> </ul> <p><b>EIR</b>      <b>CAP</b></p>							
<p><b>DD</b>      <b>Budget and Staffing Plan for CAP Implementation</b></p> <p>The CEO shall, within six months from the adoption of the General Plan Update and Climate Action Plan, present to the Board of Supervisors a proposed budget and staffing plan (including qualified technical consultants) to implement the Climate Action Plan, and shall update the budget and staffing plan each year.</p> <p><b>CAP</b></p>	<p>COS-10.1 COS-10.2 COS-10.3 COS-10.4</p>	<p>CEO</p> <hr/> <p>RMA</p>					■
<p><b>EE</b>      <b>Amend Initial Study Assessment Guidelines to Reference Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines</b></p> <p>The County shall amend the Initial Study Assessment Guidelines at Section 7, Paleontological Resources, Attachment: Minimum Qualifications for Paleontological Consultants, and at Section 8a., Cultural Resources – Archaeological, Attachment 2: Minimum Qualifications for Archaeologists, to indicate that archaeology and paleontology consultants shall meet the Secretary of the Interior's (SOI) Standards and Guidelines for archeology and historic preservation. The County shall also amend the Initial Study Assessment Guidelines at Section 7, Paleontological Resources, at Section 8a., Cultural Resources – Archeological, and at Section 8b., Cultural Resources – Historic, to indicate that staff conducting field surveys shall be supervised by an archaeology, paleontology or architectural historian consultant that meets the SOI's Standards and Guidelines within one-year of adoption of the 2040 General Plan.</p>	<p>COS 4.4</p>	<p>RMA</p>	■				

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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<b>FF Review Discretionary Development for Glare Effects Along Regional Road Network Roadways</b> Applicants for future discretionary development projects that include use of reflective surfaces such as metal, glass, or other materials that could produce glare and that the County determines would potentially be visible to motorists traveling along one or more (RRN) roadways shall submit a detailed site plan and list of project materials to the County for review and approval. If the County determines that the project would include materials that would produce disability or discomfort glare for motorists traveling along one or more RRN roadways then the County will either require the use of alternative materials, such as high-performance tinted non-mirrored glass, painted (non-gloss panels), and pre-cast concrete or fabricated textured wall surfaces, or require that the applicant submit a study demonstrating that the project would not introduce a glare source that exceeds 3:1 in a luminance histogram, which consists of inputting a set of digital photographs from a subject glare source into a computer simulation program and generating a graph that identifies the brightness level of different sections of that scene, from darkest to brightest. Glare impacts from future projects would be considered significant when the glare source to the median of the background ration exceeds 3:1 in a luminance histogram. <span style="background-color: #e85c33; color: white; padding: 2px;">EIR</span>	COS-3.6	RMA					■
<b>GG Protection of Sensitive Biological Resources</b> For any future discretionary development project that could potentially impact	COS-1.1	RMA	■				■

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<p>sensitive biological resources, the project shall be evaluated pursuant to the methodology described in the Ventura County Initial Study Assessment Guidelines which shall be amended within one year of 2040 General Plan adoption to include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ A preliminary assessment of the project shall be completed by County staff, in consultation with a qualified biologist, using available mapped biological resource data and aerial imagery to determine if the project has the potential to impact sensitive biological resources in the defined impact area (direct and indirect impacts). County staff will determine if project conditions or mitigation measures can be developed and implemented that would reduce or avoid those impacts to a less than significant level without requiring a more comprehensive biological resource assessment, otherwise known as an Initial Study Biological Assessment. Examples of projects that would not require a biological resource assessment may include but are not limited to: Projects that occur in previously developed areas, if additional vegetation removal is not required or the use may not impact surrounding natural areas; or projects on land consisting of non-native grasslands totaling less than one acre that are completely surrounded by existing urban development (such as urban infill lots).</li> <li>■ If County staff find that the project may adversely affect sensitive</li> </ul>							



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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
	<p>biological resources, then a County approved qualified biologist shall prepare a biological resource assessment to assess and mitigate the adverse impacts of the proposed project. The procedures detailed in Step 3 of the County of Ventura Initial Study Guidelines, Biological Resources Chapter, Methodology Section shall be followed to prepare this biological resource assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The biological resource assessment shall be conducted by a County approved qualified biologist that meets the minimum qualifications for biological consultants listed in Attachment 1 to the County of Ventura Initial Study Assessment Guidelines. The qualified biologist shall have expertise in the taxonomic group or species on which the surveys are focused as well as the County’s data review procedures and survey methods recommended by natural resource agencies or commonly accepted standards in the taxonomic group, community, or species (e.g., California Native Plant Society survey protocols).</li> <li>■ The biological field survey area will be determined by the County agency responsible for administering the project with consideration of recommendations from the qualified biologist. The survey area will include all areas of proposed disturbance, including associated equipment or personnel staging areas, and the surrounding area of potential sensitive biological resources that may be indirectly</li> </ul>						

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
	<p>adversely affected by the project. The size of the survey area will be based on the characteristics of surrounding habitat, the potential for sensitive biological resources to occur, and the nature of the project. For example, an infill project within an already developed area may not require a large survey area; however, a development project adjacent to natural habitat may require a larger survey area based on the potential for disturbance. The procedure for delineating the size of the survey area will follow Step 1 of the County of Ventura Initial Study Guidelines, Biological Resources Chapter, Methodology Section.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Prior to conducting any field surveys, the qualified biologist shall conduct an initial data review to determine the type of sensitive biological resources that may occur within the survey area using the procedures detailed in Step 3 (a) of the County of Ventura Initial Study Guidelines, Biological Resources Chapter, Methodology Section. This will include but not be limited to review of the best available, current data including: vegetation mapping data, mapping data from the County (Locally Important Species, Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor, Water Protection District data, past biological reports in the area, etc.); National Wetland Inventory Database (NWI); USGS National Hydrographic Dataset; EcoAtlas; and database searches of the US Fish and Wildlife Service Critical Habitat, Environmental</li> </ul>						

## 6. Conservation and Open Space Element

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<p>Conservation Online System (ECOS) and Information, Planning, and Conservation System (IPaC); California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB); and California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants of California; Audubon Important Bird Areas and Red Lists, Xerces Society, etc.</p> <p><b>Biological Inventory -Special Status Species, Sensitive Habitats, Wetlands, Other Non-wetland Waters, Native Wildlife Nursery Sites, and Wildlife Corridors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The biological inventory shall be conducted as detailed in Step 3 (b) Conduct Field Survey and (c) biological inventory, of the County of Ventura Initial Study Guidelines, Biological Resources Chapter, Methodology Section, which includes a general floristic survey of the project impact areas.</li> <li>■ Vegetation communities within the survey area shall be inventoried using the CDFW vegetation classification standards (Manual of California Vegetation) and the most recent version of CDFW vegetation mapping standards “Survey of California Vegetation Classification and Mapping Standards [CDFW, 2019].</li> <li>■ If the initial data review shows a wetland or water occurring within 300 feet (in non-coastal zone) or 500 feet (in coastal zone) from the edge of the proposed disturbance areas, then a qualified biologist</li> </ul>							

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
	<p>shall delineate the aquatic habitat (including waters of the United States and other waters including those under State jurisdiction). A summary of the type of aquatic habitat, primary water source, species diversity, connectivity to off-site habitat or other hydrological features, hydric soils, and hydrophytic vegetation, and the boundary of the feature (based upon the outermost limit of associated vegetation (canopy drip line or scrub line), hydric soils, bank and bed – whichever is greater) shall be included in the biological resource assessment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ If the initial data review indicates that sensitive biological resources have the potential to occur within the survey area, a qualified biologist shall conduct additional focused surveys for these species or other protected habitats using the most recently updated protocols recommended by natural resource agencies (e.g., Protocols for Surveying and Evaluating Impacts to Special Status Native Plant Populations and Natural Communities [CDFW 2018]. Staff Report on Burrowing Owl Mitigation [CDFG 2012]), or if not available, standards accepted in the professional biological community to survey that taxonomic group, community, or species. If an established protocol is not available for a special-status species then the qualified biologist will consult with the County, and CDFW or</li> </ul>						

## 6. Conservation and Open Space Element

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<p>USFWS, to determine the appropriate survey protocol.</p> <p><b>Mitigation for Special-Status Species, Sensitive Habitats, Wetlands, Other Non-wetland Waters, Native Wildlife Nursery Sites, and Wildlife Corridors</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ If a sensitive biological resource is identified during field surveys, then the County shall require implementation of mitigation measures at the project level that fully account for the adversely affected resource. To the maximum extent feasible<sup>1</sup>, mitigation measures should adhere to the following priority to reduce adverse impacts of a proposed project to the resource: avoid impacts, minimize impacts, and compensate for impacts.</li> <li>■ Mitigation measures shall be used on a project level basis and be tailored to on site conditions and sensitive biological resources present as follows:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1. Avoid of Impacts: Proposed development shall avoid impacts to the maximum extent feasible<sup>1</sup> by not taking certain actions or parts of an action. Projects shall be sited to avoid direct or indirect impacts on the resource, and include measures such as implementing no-disturbance buffers (e.g., nesting bird buffer areas during construction, siting staging areas outside buffer area), or implementing project-specific design features (e.g., wildlife-friendly fencing and lighting in a wildlife corridor), such that</li> </ul> </li> </ul>							

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
	<p>indirect adverse effects of project development are avoided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 2. Minimize Impacts: Proposed development shall be conditioned to minimize adverse impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation to less than significant to the maximum extent feasible<sup>1</sup>. Other mitigation measures may include reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action.</li> <li>• Measures to mitigate the spread of invasive plant species and invasive wildlife species (e.g., New Zealand mudsnail) shall include but will not be limited to: cleaning of equipment, footwear, and clothing before entering a construction site and the identification and treatment of significant infestations of invasive plant species within a project site.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Priority 3. Compensate for Impacts: Compensating for the impact can be done by replacing or providing substitute resources or by rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the impacted environment.</li> <li>■ Compensatory mitigation ratios for protected sensitive resources will be established based on the rarity of the resource, quality of affected habitat associated with the resource, temporary and permanent losses to habitat function, the type of mitigation</li> </ul>						

## 6. Conservation and Open Space Element

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
	<p>proposed (restoration, enhancement, preservation, establishment), and other requirements associated with state or federal permits. Mitigation ratios will be determined at the project level in consultation with the County, the qualified biologist, and, where applicable, federal or state agencies with jurisdiction over the resource (e.g., CDFW, USACE, USFWS).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ if impacts on a protected sensitive biological resource are unavoidable, then the project proponent shall mitigate for the type of resource as follows:</li> <li>▪ Endangered, Rare, Threatened, or Candidate Species: The applicant shall obtain incidental take authorization from USFWS (16 U.S. Code [U.S.C.] Section 1531 et seq.) or CDFW (California Fish and Game Code Sections 2050–2115.5) prior to commencing development of the project site, apply minimization measures or other conditions required under the incidental take authorization, and shall provide equivalent compensation for the unavoidable losses of these resources, generally at a minimum ratio of 1:1, or greater. Compensation may include purchasing credits from a USFWS- or CDFW-approved mitigation bank or restoring or enhancing habitat within the project site or outside of the project site.</li> <li>▪ Special-Status Species (includes Locally Important Species): The applicant shall provide equivalent</li> </ul>						

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
	<p>compensation for impacts on special-status species by restoring or significantly enhancing existing habitat where the species occurs, acquiring or protecting land that provides habitat function for affected species that is at least equivalent to the habitat function removed or degraded as a result of project implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If impacts on sensitive habitats, wetlands, other non-wetland waters, riparian habitats, native wildlife nursery sites, and wildlife corridors cannot be avoided, then the project applicant shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Federal or State Protected Sensitive Habitats: Obtain the required regulatory authorization (e.g., Section 404 permits for impacts on waters of the United States, 401 water quality certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, a Streambed Alteration Agreement for impacts on aquatic or riparian habitats within CDFW jurisdiction under Fish and Game Code Section 1602, a coastal development permit for impacts on ESHA), and provide equivalent compensation for the unavoidable losses of the above mentioned resources such that there is no net loss<sup>2</sup>.</li> <li>■ Other Protected Sensitive Habitats (includes locally important plant communities, sensitive natural communities, habitat connectivity and wildlife corridors, native wildlife nursery or overwintering sites): Provide compensation for other</li> </ul> </li> </ul>						



## 6. Conservation and Open Space Element

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
	<p>protected sensitive habitats which may include the restoration, enhancement, or preservation of the aforementioned habitats within or outside of the project site, or the purchasing of credits at an existing mitigation bank or in lieu fee program deemed acceptable by the County Planning Director.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All compensatory mitigation sites shall be protected in perpetuity through a conservation easement (if off-site), or deed restriction (or other comparable legal instrument) if on-site.</li> </ul> <p>The County shall, in harmonizing the 2040 General Plan with the Ventura County Initial Study Assessment Guidelines, add definitions for the habitat types included in this mitigation measure, including which components are subject to compliance with the County’s Local Coastal Program and Coastal Zoning Ordinance versus non-coastal areas.</p> <p>1. <i>“Feasible” means that this mitigation measure shall be applied to future discretionary projects under the 2040 General Plan when and to the extent it is “capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, legal, social, and technological factors” as determined by the County in the context of such future projects based on substantial evidence. This definition is consistent with the definition of “feasible” set forth in CEQA (Pub. Res. Code, § 21066.1) and the CEQA Guidelines (§15164). The County shall be solely responsible for making this feasibility determination in accordance with CEQA.</i></p> <p>2. <i>“Mitigation, No-Net-Loss” A principle where if a development project cannot avoid the loss of a valued natural resource, the project mitigates the impacts by replacing the impacted habitat with a newly created or restored habitat of the same size and similar functional condition so that there is no</i></p>						

Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
			Supporting Department(s)					
	<p><i>loss of ecological functions and values of that habitat type for a defined area. Similar functional condition means the relative ability to support and maintain the same species composition, diversity, and functional organization as the impacted habitat.</i></p> <p><b>EIR</b></p>							
<b>HH</b>	<p><b>Cultural Records Research</b> As part of a discretionary application process, project applicants (Ventura County for County projects) shall initiate a records search and Sacred Lands File search with the South Central Coastal Information Center.</p> <p><b>EIR</b></p>	COS-4.4	RMA					■
<b>II</b>	<p><b>Cultural, Historical, Paleontological, and Archaeological Resource Assessment Procedures</b> For discretionary projects, the County shall require the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Projects shall be designed to protect existing resources and shall avoid potential impacts to the maximum extent feasible<sup>1</sup>.</li> <li>■ If determined necessary by the County, an archaeological or paleontological and/or Native American monitor shall be retained to monitor ground-disturbing activities during construction.</li> <li>■ If any materials or artifacts are discovered during ground disturbance and/or construction activities, construction shall halt until a qualified archaeologist, paleontologist, or Native American monitor can access the discovery. A report or memorandum shall be prepared by the qualified monitor documenting any findings and identifying recommendations for</li> </ul>	COS-4.4	RMA					■

## 6. Conservation and Open Space Element

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<p>protection or avoidance of discovered resources. Recommendations or mitigation identified by the qualified monitor shall be implemented prior to commencing</p> <p><b>EIR</b></p> <p><i>1 “Feasible” means that this mitigation measure shall be applied to future discretionary projects under the 2040 General Plan when and to the extent it is “capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, legal, social, and technological factors” as determined by the County in the context of such future projects based on substantial evidence. This definition is consistent with the definition of “feasible” set forth in CEQA (Pub. Res. Code, § 21066.1) and the CEQA Guidelines (§ 15164). The County shall be solely responsible for making this feasibility determination in accordance with CEQA. or continuing project activities and/or construction.</i></p>							
<p><b>JJ</b></p> <p><b>Project-Level Historic Surveys and Protection of Historic Resources</b></p> <p>During project-specific environmental review of discretionary development, the County shall define the project’s area of potential effect for historic buildings and structures. The County shall determine the potential for the project to result in historic resource impacts, based on the extent of ground disturbance and site modification anticipated for the project. The potential for adverse impacts to historic resources shall also be determined pursuant to the requirements and protocol set forth in the Ventura County ISAG and Cultural Heritage Board Ordinance.</p> <p>Before altering or otherwise affecting a building or structure 50 years old or older, the project-applicant shall retain a qualified architectural historian according to the Secretary of the Interior Standards, to record it on a California Department of</p>	COS-4.4	RMA					■

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<p>Parks and Recreation DPR 523 form or equivalent documentation, if the building has not previously been evaluated. Its significance shall be assessed by a qualified architectural historian, using the significance criteria set forth for historic resources under CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5. The evaluation process shall include the development of appropriate historical background research as context for the assessment of the significance of the structure in the county and the region. For buildings or structures that do not meet PRC 5024.1 or the CEQA criteria for historical resource, no further mitigation is required.</p> <p>1) If the building or structure can be preserved on site, but remodeling, renovation or other alterations are required, this work shall be conducted in compliance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.</p> <p>2) If a significant historic building or structure is proposed for major alteration or renovation, or to be moved and/or demolished, the County shall ensure that a qualified architectural historian thoroughly documents the building and associated landscape and setting. Documentation shall include still and video photography and a written documentary record/history of the building to the standards of the Historic American Building Survey or Historic American Engineering Record, including accurate scaled mapping, architectural descriptions, and scaled architectural plans, if available. The record shall be prepared in consultation with State Historic Preservation Officer and filed with the Office of Historic Preservation. The record shall be accompanied by a report</p>							

## 6. Conservation and Open Space Element

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<p>containing site-specific history and appropriate contextual information. This information shall be gathered through site specific and comparative archival research, and oral history collection as appropriate.</p> <p>3) If preservation and reuse at the site are not feasible<sup>1</sup>, the historical building shall be documented as described in item (2) and, when physically and financially feasible<sup>1</sup>, be moved and preserved or reused.</p> <p>4) If, in the opinion of the qualified architectural historian, the nature and significance of the building is such that its demolition or destruction cannot be fully mitigated through documentation, the County shall reconsider project plans in light of the high value of the resource, and implement more substantial modifications to the proposed project that would allow the structure to be preserved intact. These could include project redesign, relocation or abandonment. If no such measures are feasible,<sup>1</sup> the historical building shall be documented as described in item (2).</p> <p><b>EIR</b></p> <p><i>1 “Feasible” means that this mitigation measure shall be applied to future discretionary projects under the 2040 General Plan when and to the extent it is “capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, legal, social, and technological factors” as determined by the County in the context of such future projects based on substantial evidence. This definition is consistent with the definition of “feasible” set forth in CEQA (Pub. Res. Code, § 21066.1) and the CEQA Guidelines (§ 15164). The County shall be solely responsible for making this feasibility determination in accordance with CEQA. or continuing project activities and/or construction.</i></p>							

Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
			Supporting Department(s)					
<b>KK</b>	<p><b>Implement Project-Level Security Measures</b></p> <p>During project-level ground disturbance activities for discretionary development, in areas where paleontologically rich sites or tribal cultural resources are known to be present, project sites shall be secured during non-construction hours to ensure that the unauthorized access and the unlawful curation of fossil materials or tribal cultural resources does not occur. Such security measures may include construction fencing, unauthorized access signage, security lighting, and security cameras. For large-scale development, a security plan may be prepared prior to construction activities to detail security measures and protocol for the project site.</p> <p><b>EIR</b></p>	COS-4.4	RMA					■
<b>LL</b>	<p><b>Greenhouse Gas Reduction Policy Enhancement Program</b></p> <p>The Climate Emergency Council that would be established under COS-CC shall develop recommended subprograms which implement the 52 policies identified in Table 4.8-7 of the draft EIR that do not have associated implementation programs in the 2040 General Plan. For any additional future policies that may be adopted as part of the County’s Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Strategy (2040 General Plan, Policy COS-10.1), the CEC may recommend new subprograms. The CEC shall demonstrate in the materials submitted to the Board of Supervisors that the proposed subprograms and policies would result in quantifiable GHG emission reductions that further the County’s progress towards achieving the 2030, 2040, and 2050 GHG reduction targets and goals established in the 2040 General Plan. The GHG emission</p>	COS-10.1 COS-10.2 COS-10.3 COS-10.4	CEO RMA	■				

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Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<p>reduction policy topics that may be considered and analyzed by the CEC for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors are identified in the Table 4.8-7 and include but are not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sustainable Technologies;</li> <li>▪ Regional Bicycle Infrastructure;</li> <li>▪ Funding and Maintenance for Sidewalks;</li> <li>▪ Amtrak Service Improvements;</li> <li>▪ Routine Use of Alternative Transportation Options;</li> <li>▪ Permeable Pavement;</li> <li>▪ Facilities for Emerging Technologies;</li> <li>▪ Electric Vehicle Charging Stations;</li> <li>▪ Neighborhood Electric Vehicles;</li> <li>▪ Shared Mobility Operations;</li> <li>▪ Sustainable Community Facility Design;</li> <li>▪ Energy Efficient Facility Construction, Purchases, Leases, Retrofits, and Expansions;</li> <li>▪ Agricultural Waste Reuse;</li> <li>▪ Value-Added Alternatives to Waste Disposal;</li> <li>▪ Smart Grid Development;</li> <li>▪ Consistent Fire Protection Standards for New Development;</li> <li>▪ Soil Productivity;</li> <li>▪ Incentives for Energy Efficiency;</li> <li>▪ Battery Energy Storage Systems;</li> <li>▪ Air Pollutant Reduction;</li> <li>▪ Air Pollution Impact Mitigation Measures for Discretionary Development;</li> </ul>							

Programs	Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
		Supporting Department(s)					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Transportation Control Measures Programs;</li> <li>■ Alternative Transportation Modes;</li> <li>■ Urban Greening;</li> <li>■ Integrated Pest Management Practices;</li> <li>■ Technological Innovation; and</li> <li>■ Renewable Energy Facilities.</li> </ul> <p>The CEC’s recommended GHG reduction subprograms and policies shall be presented to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation to the Board of Supervisors, and then to the Board of Supervisors for consideration and approval, no later than 2025. The Board of Supervisors shall have sole authority to adopt (including as modified) and direct the County’s implementation of the subprograms and policies that are developed and recommended by the CEC. Any CEC recommendation that would require amendments to the 2040 General Plan, County ordinances, policies or regulations shall be processed and approved by the County in accordance with all applicable legal requirements.</p> <p><b>EIR</b></p>							
<p><b>MM</b> <b>Surface Mining Reclamation Act Ordinance</b></p> <p>The County shall evaluate and as necessary update the local Surface Mining Reclamation Act ordinance within three years of adoption of the 2040 General Plan.</p>	<p>COS-6.1 COS-6.2 COS-6.3 COS-6.4 COS-6.5 COS-6.6</p>	RMA	■				



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Programs		Implements Which Policy(ies)	Responsible	2020 – 2025	2026 – 2030	2031 – 2040	Annual	Ongoing
			Supporting Department(s)					
<b>NN</b>	<p><b>Oil and Gas Setbacks</b>                      By 2022, the County shall conduct a study of going to 2,500-foot setback(s) that should be required between oil wells and related extraction facilities and surrounding sensitive receptors for a future potential General Plan amendment.</p>	COS-7.2	RMA	■				

*Please see the next page.*